

**From:** Bradford L. Barrett  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/28/02 10:01pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sirs,

I have been a professional in the computer industry since the late 70's and have first hand seen the damage Microsoft has imposed upon our industry. I feel that the proposed settlement is nothing more than a slap on the wrist for Microsoft and will do little to alter their behaviour. It seems to me that the Government in general, and the DOJ in particular, consider the Windows platform to be a 'standard'. Windows is not a standard, it is a proprietary platform that is used as a tool by a monopolist to extend their monopoly. Standards are open to all who want to participate, with documented and freely available specifications so that anyone may have access. If the DOJ truly wants to restore competition and allow access to required APIs, then the documented APIs should be open and free to anyone, without condition, and without the requirement of Microsofts blessing.

I can understnad how, not being in the industry, many people have not been able to see the damage and harm Microsoft has done over the years. I have been there, and I have seen it, first hand. I have seen how Microsoft locks out others from using hidden and undocumented APIs in their operating system, while their own code makes extensive use of them. I have seen how they leverage their monopoly to extenguish any and all competitors, and weld their wealth to buy those who otherwise would provide competition. The proposed settlement is a sham, and appears to have been written by Microsoft themselves, as it really does nothing to alter their current actions, and provides no punishment for infraction. Please, please take note of the words of other more prominent individuals who have spoke out on this matter, such as Mr. Ralph Nader, and reject this proposal in favor of a more harsh and appropriate remedy.

Thank You.  
Bradford L. Barrett

Senior Systems Architect  
USBid Inc.  
Miami, Florida